

THE INDEPENDENT

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F. J. YESTER, Proprietor and Publisher.

Residing in Honolulu.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 28, 1903.

DEAD, BUT YET ALIVE.

It is reported of the only Brown on the Republican ticket that he referred to his late opponent Wilcox, at various places where meetings were held and speeches made, in manner as follows: "What is the use of your voting for a man who is very sick with one foot in the grave, and the other foot trailing after it?" That "one foot in the grave" came true, prior to which "she" was daily seen in his office. What was she doing there?—may we ask. It may be answered that it was none of our business; but it looked suspicious anyway.

Brown may now be happy that Wilcox is at last dead and that he would have plain sailing and an easy walk-over, but we are of the opinion that he has just as sturdy an opponent in Jno. H. Wise, and, if not, more so since Wilcox's death. Home Rulers claim that the spirit of the dead leader is hovering over his party and his substitute, one he had thought that if elected he would make his deputy. Wise's chances are even better, in our view as to the outlook, than were Wilcox's, in that one of the chief objections to the latter's candidacy was the frequency of visits to and intimacy displayed between his better half and his opponent, has been removed by his death in the midst of strife, and therefore, those who thought that way are now free to vote for Wise in opposition to Brown. And may election day show such to be the case.

Another man who may be happy in the realization of his prediction is

"Boss" Achi of the Fifth, who is reported to have made an open declaration in front of the Home Rule headquarters that he would pay \$500 to any kahuna who would pray Wilcox to death. We know, of course, that these were only the words of a peevish braggart, probably too insignificant to be noticed, but death having since ensued to his heart's content, it is likely that he may follow as a fitting sequel to his realized wish. Anger and lack of influence may have been the cause for these cruel remarks, but the "wrath to come" may yet deal harshly with those who would want to deal harshly with others.

Home Rulers, including Wilcox himself, answered these remarks by saying that he was not yet destined to die. But "death came as a thief in the night" and took his life in flight unexpectedly. Knowing himself to be weak in health, he made his fight bravely and manfully to the end, boastfully claiming that his death was not near and that his end was yet afar off. But the Maker of all mankind thought otherwise. It was not his will nor ours, but "Thy will be done." Wilcox's opponents are evidently happy that he has been forever removed out of his sphere of influence, but there will yet arise another to take up the cudgels where he laid them and renew the fight where he left off.

Now we come to the show of sympathy made by the Republicans. It was not sincere and only a vote-catching expedient. All of it was only surface show and not skin deep, and the voters know (trust them for that) how to treat with them at the ballot box. The tide is turning against them and the results will surely show on election day.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

So John Gandall has converted a native named Friday to the politics of the Republican party. There always did hover about the name of "Friday" a superstition, foreboding all kinds of ill-luck. May it not be possible that this man Friday will prove the Jonah in the Republican ship?

The two noted political barometers, Titus Sheard and Lou Payn, have been figuring on the chances of Mr. Roosevelt in New York next year and they are about 92,000 votes apart. Splitting the difference, Mr. Roosevelt would lose the electorate vote of his home State by some 46,000.

At the Peninsula last night, Candidate Harry Murray alluded to the dead leader as if his dead body was yet in the political hubbub. We don't want "dead" issues, but rather the "live" ones that are pertinent to the welfare of this county. In our opinion, it is better to "let the dead bury the dead" and look to the interest of the many instead.

We understand that Chinese put up the pol. fish and other edibles for the Republican luau at the Peninsula last night, and that the provender was served by the Ewa police. How's that? With the Chinamen and police working hand in hand in Ewa is it any small wonder that gambling is open, opium-selling is unconcealed and crime is frequent there?

Paddy Ryan's "gold brick" fighter, Joe Millett, seems not to have been such a gold brick, after all. His career here somewhat startled the know-it-

alls, and the fierce battle and great victory in Oakland last night has probably put the local knockers of Millett on the anxious seat. Millett is the coming light-heavyweight champion of the world, and the next two years will show it.

The Iroquois should be in no danger at Midway Islands if her commanding officer understands his business. Safe anchorage can be had inside the reef in ordinary weather. In face of a gale, however, the scheme of any sea captain would be to put to sea, and the speed of the Iroquois would ensure her safe exit in time. Storm stories centered about the Midway Islands are greatly exaggerated anyway. They come on like storms in any other part of the world, giving ample warning of their approach.

The demonstration in honor of the memory of the late Judge Estee this morning was the response of the entire community and betokened the sympathy and sorrow of the community as a whole. Politics did not figure in it; race prejudice (if any exists) was laid aside and the populace as a unit did honor to one of the greatest Americans that ever lived in Hawaii. Native and white marched together in the solemn procession to the steamer, paying the same tribute of affection expressed by acts, feeling the same grief and realizing the same loss sustained. It was a grand benediction to the life of a man—a benediction in which every race, sect, creed, political faith, men, women and children were united as one person.

Henchman John Lane said last night down at the Peninsula meeting, assisted by a luau feed and a beer-drinking bout, that Home Rulers showed a lack of sympathy for Wilcox by holding a monster meeting at the same place last Saturday, whereas the Republicans called all their meetings off for that night. Good reason why they called them off, they can't draw the crowd and the enthusiasm without beer and feed. Last night's crowd was about one-half of the previous night's crowd, and that without beer or feed, nothing but plain enthusiasm. The tide of popular feeling is turning and nothing can stem it, not even the words of Hardicanute of old can stop it, when he ordered the sea to "thus far shalt thou go and no farther," and it washed his feet and touched the hem of his garment without in the least heeding him. Mr. Lane should by this time learn an example.

The Advertiser and Star have come out in opposition to a State funeral for the late Hon. R. W. Wilcox on the plea that he was not, at the time of his death, a Government official. In other words, the two papers mentioned, which are the spokesmen of the missionary party are, politically, fighting a corpse and insulting the memory and good name of a dead man. Suppose Wilcox had devoted his life to the interests of the missionary party, holding, however, only the important position of Delegate to Congress—what would have been the attitude of the Advertiser and Star in respect to his funeral? They would have raised heaven and earth to have had it on a most elaborate scale from the Palace, accompanied by all the ceremony and honors within their power to muster up. The difference in the case is that Mr. Wilcox opposed the missionary party and worked instead for the best interests of the people at large.

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